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**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant: Kenshu SHIMADA  
U.S. Serial No.: Filed Concurrently Herewith  
International Appln. No.: PCT/JP01/05912  
International Filing Date: 6 July 2001  
Title of Invention: APPARATUS AND SELLING COMMODITIES

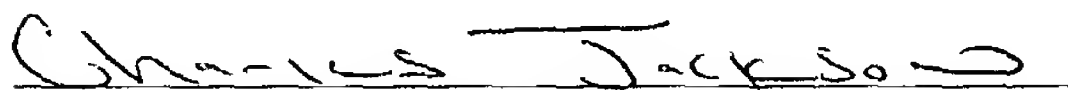
745 Fifth Avenue  
New York, NY 10151

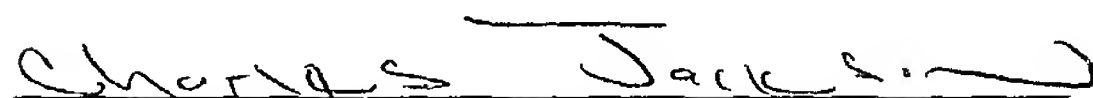
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**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application (35 U.S.C. 111)  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend claims 42-46 and 48-52 as follows:

42. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 41 wherein the related commodities that can be used in concerted fashion with said specified commodity are those commodities that allow for at least one of direct connection, radio connection, removable connection, internal connection or indirect mounting thereof with respect to said specified commodity.

43. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 41 wherein the operation verification information testifying to regular operation of each commodity carrying other commodity or commodities connected or mounted thereto is stored in said commodity information storage means; and

wherein in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, normally operating commodities are transmitted from said operation verification information as related commodities to said client device.

44. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 43 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the function of acquiring the information pertinent to the commodities usable in concerted fashion with a commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means; and

the function of acquiring the operation verification information pertinent to the commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, from the commodity supplier, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means.

45. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 41 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the attention instigation

information transmitting function of transmitting the attention instigation information in case a commodity selected as the related commodity proves an over-equipment with respect to said specified commodity.

46. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 41 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the objective achieving function of acquiring the objective information specifying the objective of using or purchasing a commodity, and wherein, in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, the related commodities are extracted from said commodity information storage means, with the objective information, acquired by said objective achieving function, as a constraint condition, to transmit the extracted related commodities to said client device.

48. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 47 wherein the related commodities that can be used in concerted fashion with said specified commodity are those commodities that allow for at least one of direct connection, radio connection, removable connection, internal connection or indirect mounting thereof with respect to said specified commodity.

49. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 47 wherein the operation verification information testifying to regular operation of each commodity carrying other commodity or commodities connected or mounted thereto is stored in said commodity information storage means; and

wherein in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, normally operating commodities are transmitted from said operation verification information as related commodities to said client device.

50. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 49 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the function of

the function of acquiring the operation verification information pertinent to the commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, from the commodity supplier, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means.

52. (Amended) The storage medium according to claim 47 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the objective achieving function of acquiring the objective information specifying the objective of using or purchasing a commodity, and wherein, in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, the related commodities are extracted from said commodity information storage means, with the objective information, acquired by said objective achieving means, as a constraint condition, to transmit the extracted related commodities to said client device.

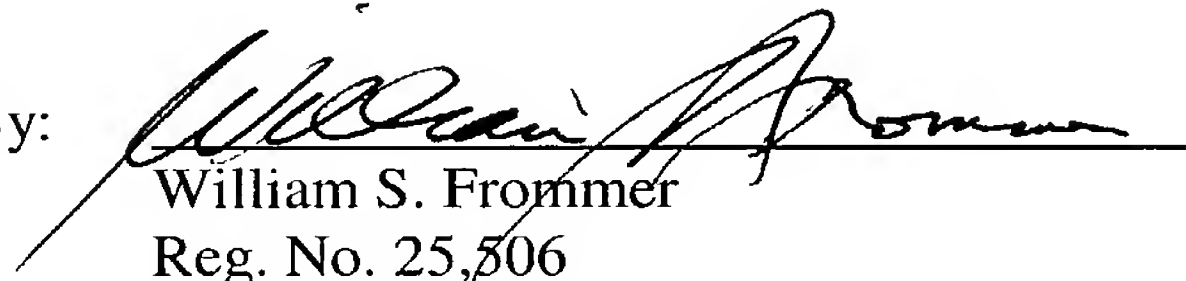
**REMARKS**

Claims 1-55 remain in the application. Claims 42-46 and 48-52 are amended for consistency. Attached hereto is a marked up version of the changes made to claims 42-46 and 48-52 by the current amendment. The attached page is captioned "**Version with markings to show changes made.**" The filing fee has been calculated based upon these amendments to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****In the claims:**

42. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 41 wherein the related commodities that can be used in concerted fashion with said specified commodity are those commodities that allow for at least one of direct connection, radio connection, removable connection, internal connection or indirect mounting thereof with respect to said specified commodity.

43. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 41 wherein the operation verification information testifying to regular operation of each commodity carrying other commodity or commodities connected or mounted thereto is stored in said commodity information storage means; and

wherein in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, normally operating commodities are transmitted from said operation verification information as related commodities to said client device.

44. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 43 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the function of acquiring the information pertinent to the commodities usable in concerted fashion with a commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means; and

the function of acquiring the operation verification information pertinent to the commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information

storage means, from the commodity supplier, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means.

45. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 41 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the attention instigation information transmitting function of transmitting the attention instigation information in case a commodity selected as the related commodity proves an over-equipment with respect to said specified commodity.

46. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 41 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the objective achieving function of acquiring the objective information specifying the objective of using or purchasing a commodity, and wherein, in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, the related commodities are extracted from said commodity information storage means, with the objective information, acquired by said objective achieving function, as a constraint condition, to transmit the extracted related commodities to said client device.

48. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 47 wherein the related commodities that can be used in concerted fashion with said specified commodity are those commodities that allow for at least one of direct connection, radio connection, removable connection, internal connection or indirect mounting thereof with respect to said specified commodity.

49. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 47 wherein the operation verification information testifying to regular operation of each commodity carrying other commodity or commodities connected or mounted thereto is stored in said commodity information storage means; and



wherein in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, normally operating commodities are transmitted from said operation verification information as related commodities to said client device.

50. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 49 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the function of acquiring the information pertinent to the commodities usable in concerted fashion with a commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means; and

the function of acquiring the operation verification information pertinent to the commodity, the commodity information of which has been stored in said commodity information storage means, from the commodity supplier, for storage of the so acquired information in said commodity information storage means.

51. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 47 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the attention instigation information transmitting function of transmitting the attention instigation information in case a commodity selected as the related commodity proves an over-equipment with respect to said specified commodity.

52. (Amended) The storage ~~apparatus~~ medium according to claim 47 wherein the commodity information furnishing program stored thereon has said computer realize the objective achieving function of acquiring the objective information specifying the objective of using or purchasing a commodity, and wherein, in said second commodity information furnishing function, realized on said computer, the related commodities are extracted from said commodity information storage



means, with the objective information, acquired by said objective achieving means, as a  
constraint condition, to transmit the extracted related commodities to said client device.